



ARGENTINA:

Art, Wine, Tango & the Andes

November 6–15, 2015



DEAR COMMONWEALTH CLUB MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Join the Commonwealth Club Members on a journey of two of Argentina's most memorable sites: the vibrant metropolis of Buenos Aires and the provincial capital of Mendoza. Experience the cultural sophistication of Buenos Aires along with the exploration of Mendoza's wine-growing regions and wineries with their soaring mountains and spectacular landscapes.

Our journey begins with Buenos Aires, the "Paris of South America." Enjoy Buenos Aires' cosmopolitan pleasures by taking a tango lesson, attending a tango performance, and exploring the neighborhoods of Recoleta, La Boca and San Telmo. Beyond the city's limits venture out into the *pampas* to a historic estancia to enjoy an Argentinean-style barbecue. On this journey, you'll visit vineyards, see breathtaking snow-capped peaks, and stop for sumptuous meals.

We continue onto Mendoza, the center of Argentina's wine industry and one of the world's wine capitals. A cool canopy of trees shades the city's sidewalks and water runs along its streets via canals and then bursts from fountains in Mendoza's parks and squares. Outside the city, we'll travel to Valle de Uco, one of the highest wine-growing regions in the world and to Lujan de Cuyo, home to some of the most famous names in Argentinean wines. Here we'll enjoy special tastings and tours, learn firsthand about viticulture from vineyard owners, visit a local artist and participate in a cooking lesson of regional cuisine.

A pre-trip extension is offered to Iguazú Falls, one of the natural wonders of the world. You may also choose to explore the Swiss-like town of Bariloche surrounded by deep azure lakes, vast forests and the Andes Mountains on an optional post-trip extension.

Accompanying you on this tour will be Peter H. Smith, a prominent professor at the University of California, San Diego who has conducted in-depth analyses of political change in Argentina and other countries of Latin America.

Come join us on this exciting exploration of the arts, wine and culture of Argentina.

Sincerely,



Kristina Nemeth
Director of Travel



STUDY LEADER



Peter H. Smith is Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Simón Bolívar Professor of Latin American Studies at the University of California, San Diego. He is a specialist on comparative politics, Latin American politics, and U.S.–Latin American relations.

A *magna cum laude* graduate of Harvard College, Mr. Smith received the Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1966. He

has served in faculty positions at Dartmouth College (1966–68), the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1968–80), and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1980–87). He has held visiting appointments at the Universidad de San Andrés (Buenos Aires), El Colegio de México, the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, the Universidade de São Paulo, and the Universidad de Alcalá de Henares and the Instituto Ortega y Gasset in Spain.

A prolific author, Professor Smith has written *Politics and Beef in Argentina: Patterns of Conflict and Change* (1969) and *Argentina and the Failure of Democracy: Conflict among Political Elites* (1974). He has published major works on Mexican politics, U.S.–Latin American relations, and processes of democratization in Latin America, plus numerous articles and book chapters, many intended for the general public. He has co-authored *Modern Latin America*, now in its eighth edition and the most prominent classroom text in its field. For several years Peter also served as moderator for a UCSD-TV television talk show about Latin America and its relationship with the United States.





San Telmo, Buenos Aires

ITINERARY

Friday & Saturday, November 6 & 7

U.S. / BUENOS AIRES

Depart on an overnight flight to Buenos Aires, Argentina. Transfer to our hotel, located in the heart of the fashionable Recoleta neighborhood, and begin our journey with an exploration of the nearby Recoleta Cemetery, the much-revered resting place of patriarchs, presidents, poets and the beloved Eva Perón. Later, gather for this evening's welcome dinner.

Loi Suites Recoleta (D)

Sunday, November 8

BUENOS AIRES

Begin your exploration of Buenos Aires with a driving tour through the narrow streets of the old city and the broad avenues of the main city. Visit the Plaza de la República to see the iconic "Obelisco", built to commemorate the fourth centenary of the first foundation of the city. Around

the "Plaza de Mayo" see the "Casa Rosada" (Pink House), which houses the mythical balcony from where Evita addressed the people; and the Metropolitan Cathedral, the main Catholic church in Buenos Aires and resting place of General San Martín, Argentina's independence hero. Along the *Avenida de Mayo*, pass Art Nouveau buildings, old hotels, theaters, and cafes. Continue to the neighborhood of La Boca, with its colorful tenements and walk along the mythical street of "Caminito." Take a tango lesson at the *Estudio de Tango* then enjoy a dinner and tango performance at the *Esquina Carlos Gardel*.

Loi Suites Recoleta (B,L,D)

Monday, November 9

SAN ANTONIO DE ARECO— THE PAMPAS

Spend today immersed in gaucho culture. Visit the town of San Antonio de Areco and learn about the gaucho's history and way of life. Continue on to a private estancia where we find what goes into the

preparation of a traditional Argentinean asado meal. After a barbecue lunch, the amateur gauchos among us will have the opportunity to go for a horseback ride across the pampas with its huge empty skies, endless horizons and pastures spotted with cattle.

Loi Suites Recoleta (B,L)

Tuesday, November 10

BUENOS AIRES

Visit the Colón Opera House, the main opera house of the city. Recently restored and reopened in 2010, it is acoustically considered to be amongst the five best concert venues in the world. Later explore the museum of Latin American Art of Buenos Aires, known as MALBA, designed by four young Argentinean architects and containing one of the major collections of Latin American art in the world. Next we'll walk the cobblestone streets of bohemian San Telmo, one of the oldest neighborhoods in Buenos Aires with its early-19th century colonial architecture.

Loi Suites Recoleta (B,L)

Wednesday, November 11

BUENOS AIRES / MENDOZA

Fly to the province of Mendoza and transfer to our hotel. Enjoy a cooking class from an expert chef. Learn the recipes for such typical Argentine cuisine as empanadas or dulce de leche. After a delicious lunch we'll tour San Martín Park, the most important and beautiful park of the city where Cerro de la Gloria (The Hill of Glory), the national monument of the Army of the Andes is located.

Intercontinental Mendoza Hotel (B,L,D)

Thursday, November 12

LUJAN DE CUYO

Today we'll visit the small town of Lujan de Cuyo located in a valley just south of Mendoza and home to some of the most famous names in Argentinean wine. Our first stop will be Belasco de Baquedano, known for its exceptionally exquisite Malbecs. The winery features a "Hall of Aromas" which invites visitors to engage their senses to discover many of the scents associated with fine wines. We'll continue onwards to the Caelum Winery, a boutique family winery where we will be welcomed by the owners



Congreso Nacional, Buenos Aires



Lake Correntoso

OPTIONAL POST-TRIP EXTENSION: BARILOCHE

November 14–November 19, 2015

Extend your stay in Buenos Aires one night and then venture on to the Patagonia Lake District. Fly to Bariloche and transfer to Villa La Angostura, a natural sanctuary of pristine land with deep azure lakes, soaring mountains and vast forests. Enjoy three nights at the Correntoso Lake and River Hotel situated on the mouth of the Correntoso River where it enters Nahuel Huapi Lake at the foot of the Andes. Enjoy a full day on Victoria Island for a nature walk through the island's idyllic forest. Next day, journey to the Enchanted Valley (*Valle Encantado*) where volcanic rock configurations take on unique shapes and where Andean condors nest. The post-trip extension includes one extra night in Buenos Aires and three-night's accommodations in the Bariloche area, buffet breakfast every day, two lunches and one dinner, entrance fees, transfers, and leadership. Airfare is additional and quoted separately.

Loi Suites Recoleta Buenos Aires and Correntoso Lake and River Hotel

and given a tour and wine tasting. We'll have lunch at Osadia de Crear, a restaurant located inside the Dominios del Plata winery and known for its Torrontes wines.

Intercontinental Mendoza Hotel (B,L)

Friday, November 13

VALLE DEL UCO

Set out on an exploration of the Valle de Uco, one of the highest wine-growing regions in the world. Situated in the foothills of the Andes, this visually stunning new frontier in Argentine winemaking has attracted winemakers from

all over the world. We'll visit the O. Fournier Winery housed in a striking structure designed by Argentine architects Bormida & Yanzon. The winery's building features a gravity-driven wine-making process where grapes are crushed on winery's top level and then trickle into the wine cellar which also houses an art gallery.

The winery's Alfa Cruz Malbec, Merlot and Tempranillo wines rank among the areas top exports. Enjoy an exquisite lunch at the renowned Francis Mallmann restaurant, Siete Fuegos.

Intercontinental Mendoza Hotel (B,L)

Saturday, November 14

MENDOZA / BUENOS AIRES / U.S.

This morning we'll visit with a local artist and enjoy a celebratory farewell lunch. Afternoon transfer to the Mendoza airport for a flight to Buenos Aires and transfer to the international airport for overnight flights to the U.S. (B,L)

Sunday, November 15

ARRIVAL U.S.

Arrive in the U.S. and connect with flights home.



Iguazú Falls

OPTIONAL PRE-TRIP EXTENSION: IGUAZÚ FALLS

November 3–7, 2015

Roaring out of the jungle and hurtling over cliffs between Brazil and Argentina, the Iguazú Falls are one of the natural wonders of the world. The two nights at this extraordinary place offer ample time to relax and see the cataracts surrounded by luxuriant rain forest, beautiful exotic birds and intriguing bromeliads and butterflies. Walk along the upper and lower trails for close-up views of the many different falls. Exploration from the Brazilian side is thrilling. Take a Zodiac boat to see the falls from the lower river, approaching the base of the falls. Extension includes one extra night in Buenos Aires and two-night's accommodations in Iguazú (taxes included), buffet breakfast every day, one lunch, entrance fees, transfers, and leadership. Airfare is additional and quoted separately. The visit to the Brazilian side of the falls requires a visa.

Loi Suites Recoleta Buenos Aires and Lois Suites Iguazú

COSTS & CONDITIONS

LAND PROGRAM COST: **\$6,795**
(Per person based on double occupancy)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: **\$895**

Rates and inclusions for the main program are based on a minimum of 14 guests and a maximum of 28.

SAMPLE COACH AIRFARE **\$1,489**

Roundtrip from San Francisco, California to Buenos Aires (As of February 2015 and is subject to change.)

Optional Pre-Trip Extension

IGUAZÚ FALLS **\$1,575**
(Per person based on double occupancy)

Single supplement for the extension is **\$495**. Rates are based on a minimum of 8 guests. Roundtrip flights from Buenos Aires to Iguazú Falls are approximately **\$495** and not included.

Hotel Loi Suites Buenos Aires and Hotel Loi Suites Iguazú

Optional Post-Trip Extension

BARILOCHE **\$2,695**
(Per person based on double occupancy)

Single supplement for the extension is **\$745**. Roundtrip flights from Buenos Aires to Bariloche are approximately **\$350** and not included. Rates are based on a minimum of 8 guests.

Hotel Loi Suites Buenos Aires and Correntoso Lake and River Hotel

TERMS & CONDITIONS

PROGRAM COST INCLUDES: 4 and 5-star accommodations, meals as specified in the itinerary; internal roundtrip flight Buenos Aires/Mendoza/Buenos Aires provided increases in the in-tour airfare are not included (see below), wine with welcome and farewell meals, and during winery visits; study leader; expert local guides; headsets; all land and water transportation; guides and tour manager throughout; airport transfers for group flights; domestic airport departure taxes; entrance fees; baggage handling; basic gratuities to local guides and drivers; pre-departure information.

PROGRAM COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:

U.S. domestic and international airfare (quoted separately); meals not specified in the itinerary; personal items such as laundry, fax or telephone calls, liquor, room service, passport and visa fees (visa required to see Brazilian side of Iguazú Falls. Cost is approximately \$245 including visa agency fee), reciprocity fee into Argentina (approx. \$161), excess baggage charges, individual transfers, medical expenses, travel insurance, optional extension or deviations from the scheduled tour. Any increases in the in-tour airfare (included as part of the program cost), airport

taxes, security, or fuel surcharges imposed after the initial pricing of this program are not included. Pre and Post Extension flights are not included in land costs and subject to change in price by the airlines. Tip to tour director is at the passenger's discretion.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS & FINAL PAYMENT:

To reserve a space on this tour, please call with your authorization for a credit card payment for \$1,000 per person to Commonwealth Club Travel, 555 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due July 28, 2015 and must be paid by check.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS:

All cancellations must be made in writing to The Commonwealth Club. Refunds, less a cancellation fee of \$600 per person, are made if we are notified in writing on or before July 28, 2015. No refunds will be made after July 28, 2015. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. An application for travel insurance will be available upon confirmation. Neither The Commonwealth Club nor Royal Adventures accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a

non-refundable airline ticket or other expenses incurred by tour participants in preparing for the tour.

QUESTIONS:

Please contact Club Travel at 415-597-6720 or e-mail travel@commonwealthclub.org.

CALIFORNIA SELLER OF TRAVEL:

Royal Adventures CST #2009579-40 and Commonwealth Club Travel, CST #2096889-40

RESPONSIBILITY: Royal Adventures, its owners and employees act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services connected with this tour. Such travel and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which such accommodations, services and transportation are offered or provided, and the Commonwealth Club and Royal Adventures and their respective, employees, agents, representatives, and assigns, accept no liability therefore. The Commonwealth Club and Royal Adventures assume no liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind

due to sickness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, and acts of nature or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. The Commonwealth Club and Royal Adventures reserve the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants. They reserve the right to withdraw this tour without penalty. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, or to substitute another qualified leader or special guest. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current tariffs and rates, and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, airfare, or fuel increases will be passed onto participants. Neither the Commonwealth Club nor Royal Adventures accept the liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline ticket. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release.

RESERVATION FORM

Please accept my credit card authorization for _____ (\$1,000 deposit per person, plus \$200 for the Iguazú Falls pre-trip extension and \$200 for the Bariloche post-trip extension, if applicable) to hold _____ place(s) on the Argentina: Art, Wine, Tango & the Andes tour, November 6-15, 2015. Final Payment is due July 28, 2015 by check.

Name* _____ DOB _____

Name* _____ DOB _____

*All names should be as on passport.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phones: Home () _____ Business () _____

Cell () _____ E-mail: _____

Please charge my deposit of _____ per person to:

MasterCard Visa American Express

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ Sec. Code _____

I will require single accommodations

I will share accommodations with: _____

I/we wish to join the Iguazú Falls pre-trip optional extension at an additional cost of **\$1,575** per person. Single supplement **\$495**.

I/we wish to join the Bariloche post-trip optional extension at an additional cost of **\$2,695** per person. Single supplement **\$745**.

I/we want you to book my/our flights from: _____

Economy Business

I/We have carefully read the Costs and Conditions and Responsibility sections of this brochure and agree to their terms on behalf of myself and the members of my party named above.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR DEPOSIT TO:

Commonwealth Club Travel

555 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

You may also fax the form to 415-597-6729



ARGENTINA:

Art, Wine, Tango & the Andes

WHAT TO EXPECT

This exclusive program for Commonwealth Club members and friends is designed for those who are interested in learning about the history, culture, and superb wines of Argentina. This is a moderately active program. A typical day includes some coach travel, walking tours, visits to wineries and tours behind the scenes. Meals are at a winery or nice restaurant. In Buenos Aires there will be some time to explore the city on one's own. Participants must be able to walk easily by themselves and climb stairs without assistance. Please note that the order of activities may change due to local conditions. During our trip, which is during Argentina's spring, temperatures generally range from the 70s (°F) to mid-80s during the day to the 50s at night. Travel is by regular scheduled jet aircraft and motor coach.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Explore** the art, architecture, and unique neighborhoods of Buenos Aires, the "Paris of South America."
- **Spend** a day at a private estancia in the *pampas* and savor a typical Argentine barbecue.
- **Tour** the heart of the wine district, Mendoza, and learn first-hand about wines such as Malbec, Tempranillo, and Torrontes from vineyard owners.
- **Enjoy** a tango lesson and one of the country's famously colorful tango shows.
- **Marvel** at the newly restored Colón Opera House.
- **Participate** in a cooking lesson of regional specialties.

November 6–15, 2015

